

**State Board of Education
Briefing Paper
Washington State Learning First Alliance**

Issue/Definition: The Washington State Learning First Alliance (WSLFA) represents a commitment by a number of statewide education organizations to unite around a common focus: to improve student learning in Washington state.

The State Board of Education has been a WSLFA member organization as well as a member state of the National Learning First Alliance (NLFA). The WSLFA (see SBE home page, click on icon on lower right corner of the page), states *"The WSLFA "is an alliance of major state educational organizations dedicated to strengthening environments for teaching and learning."*

Each organization is represented by its president and executive director." In the past I served a two-year stint as co-chair. I would characterize this group predominantly as a venue for the leadership of the member organizations to meet four times a year to share concerns and generate a unified position on legislative issues heading into the next session.

RCW Cite: N/A

Expiration of SBE Authority: Since reconstitution of the State Board, I put a hold on paying this year's membership dues (\$500 annually), until the new board has a chance to discuss whether it wants to reestablish its membership in WSLFA. The SBE web site link provides a list of the member organizations (as of last fall).

OSPI Role: OSPI is a WSLFA member.

State Board Role: Former member. SBE web site remains the host site for the WSLFA link.

Effect on Districts: No direct impact per se.

Recommendation from SBE Staff: The annual dues are modest. There is value in having the organizational leaders meet quarterly to discuss issues and concerns of common interest. My recommendation is to rejoin the Alliance.

Larry Davis
04.11.06



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Welcome

Thank you for visiting the home page of the Washington State Learning First Alliance (WSLFA). The WSLFA "is an alliance of major state educational organizations dedicated to strengthening environments for teaching and learning." Each organization is represented by its president and executive director.

The WSLFA is one of seven member states of the National Learning First Alliance (NLFA) that was organized in 1996. If you have questions or suggestions about the content of this Web site, contact us at: wslfa@ospi.wednet.edu

Our Goals

Members of the Washington State Learning First Alliance (WSLFA) are committed to improving student learning by:

- Recognizing the interdependency of all alliance organizations and coming to work together.
- Effectively communicating and collaborating to:
 - Focus on state learning goals and the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs).
 - Share responsibility and advocacy for all children's learning.
 - Advocate for supportive learning communities that are culturally inclusive and equitable for all students.
 - Expand the capacity of educational systems.
- Promoting safe and supportive places of learning for all students
- Mutually affecting the development of a fair and meaningful accountability system.

Our Mission

Our Mission is to Create a Statewide Supportive Learning Community that Strengthens the Development of Productive Learning Environments Resulting in Improved Teaching and Learning

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